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IDEA 1118-69
Copy 4 of 4

29 December 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Proposed Additional Constraints on Operational Missions

1. Following comments are general factors which would be common to any route. The additional constraint of 20 NM from any island on IDEALIST/TACKLE missions will adversely affect our mission in at least four areas: targeting, photographic quality, Elint capability and navigation.

a. Targeting: Moving the flight path further from the mainland will reduce both the number of programmed COMIREX targets per mission and the number of non-programmed "BONUS" COMIREX targets obtained on each mission. Additionally the T-35 tracker camera film would be ineffective.

b. Photographic Quality: Quality and resolution will be considerably degraded as a result of the longer camera-to-target distances involved, especially with the haze condition normally encountered in China.

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d. Navigation: The contemplated mileage restraint would create significant navigational difficulties in attempting to maintain a required flight path at large distances from checkpoints.

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IDEA 1118-69
Page 2

2. Effect of constraint on photographic coverage of programmed COMIREX targets on present canned routes versus proposed alternate routes is shown below:

- a. Canned Route 1121 Present (62) Alt (32)
- b. Canned Route 1123 This route covers an area from the Shantung Peninsula south to Shanghai, an area relatively free of islands. Consequently, route would remain the same. No change in coverage of 35 programmed COMIREX targets.
- c. Canned Route 1124 Present (47) Alt (18)
- d. Canned Route 1125 Present (60) Alt (22)
- e. Canned Route 1126 Present (55) Alt (29)



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